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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/091,530	03/07/2002	Riccardo Gemelli	3839-0104P	8353
2292	7590	08/17/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			RAY, GOPAL C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2111	

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/091,530	Applicant(s) GEMELLI ET AL.	
	Examiner Gopal C. Ray	Art Unit 2111	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 March 2002 and 21 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 7/9/2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4 | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03072002</u> 3 | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. Applicant's election of Group I, claims 1-36 in the reply filed on 7/21/2004 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). Applicant should cancel non-elected claims 37-53 in response to this office action. Claims 1-36 are presented for examination.
2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.
3. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it exceeds 150 words limit. Furthermore, the abstract is limited to a single paragraph. Applicant should combine the paragraphs to one paragraph and reduce the number of words to 150 words. The words "means" and "said" should not be used in the amendment to the abstract.

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4. The drawings filed on 3/7/2002 are acceptable by the examiner. However, direct any inquiries concerning drawing review by the USPTO draftsman to the Drawing Review Branch at (703) 305-8404.

5. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

6. Claims 5, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33 and 35 are objected to because of the following informalities: the word --and-- should be inserted after “;” in claim 5, line 15; claim 7, line 14; claim 8, line 25; claim 9, line 18; claim 17, line 6; claim 18, line 6; claim 21, line 14; claim 22, line 9; claim 23, line 13; claim 26, line 9; claim 27, line 6; claim 28, line 18; claim 29, line 7; claim 30, line 6; claim 32, line 15; claim 33, line 4 and claim 35, line 6.

7. Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The examiner notes the following ambiguities. However, all claims should be revised carefully to eliminate all grammatical errors and antecedent basis problems.

Claims 1, 12, 15, 17, 19, 32, 33, 35 and 36 are vague and indefinite because of the word “type”. The addition of the word “type” to an otherwise definite expression extends the scope of the expression so as to render it indefinite because it is unclear as

to what actual element is intended to convey by adding the word "type". Applicant should delete the word "type" and make appropriate changes.

Furthermore, regarding claim 1, the phrase "such as" (line 14) renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d). The word "similar" (line 3) also renders the claim indefinite.

Dependent claims 2-36 incorporate the deficiencies of parent claim 1. Moreover, the phrases "said main module" (claim 4, lines 1-2; claim 6, lines 1-2; claim 7, lines 1-2; claim 8, lines 1-2) and "said remote filling status" (claim 6, line 5) lack proper antecedent basis.

8. Claims 1-36 would be allowable over the prior art on record if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action. Also amend claims 5, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33 and 35 to overcome the objections set forth in paragraph 6.

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The instant claimed invention has one independent claim and 2-36 dependent claims. It is directed to "a system of distributed microprocessor interfaces toward macro-cell based designs implemented as ASIC or FPGA bread boarding and relative common bus protocol". The examiner has done a thorough search and found no prior art that teaches or fairly suggests the combination of various claimed elements including configuration registers, command registers, status registers, not prefetchable registers for trapping events signaled by macro-cells, event counter registers, register

synchronizers, dual port memories both of RAM and FIFO either synchronous or asynchronous with respect to a clock that synchronizes the macro-cells" as claimed in independent claim 1. Dependent claims 2-36 further limit the subject matter of the respective parent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted in response to this office action. Furthermore, if applicants are aware of any better prior art than those are cited, they are required to bring the prior art to the attention of the examiner.

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is urged to consider the references. However, the references should be evaluated by what they suggest to one versed in the art, rather than by their specific disclosure. The prior art submitted by applicant has been considered by the examiner and made of record in the file.


10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gopal C. Ray whose telephone number is (703) 305-9647. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart, can be reached on (703) 305-4815. The new fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to TC2100 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


GOPAL C. RAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2200